

TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE Oct. 29, 2013 CONTACT: Sandy Myers 540-332-9201 (office) STA13-207

540-292-2500 (cell)

Sandy.Myers@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Ken Slack 540-332-9264 (office)

540-414-5670 (cell)

Ken.Slack@VDOT.Virginia.gov

NEW RESTRICTIONS ON ROUTE 624 IN WARREN COUNTY

Through Trucks and All Vehicles Over 5 Tons Prohibited

STAUNTON – The Virginia Department of Transportation has prohibited through traffic of large commercial trucks on part of Route 624 (Morgan Ford Road) in Warren County near Front Royal. In addition, the weight limit of the low-water bridge over the Shenandoah River has been lowered to five tons, based on its most recent inspection and current condition.

At the request of the Warren County Board of Supervisors, VDOT conducted a traffic analysis and found that Route 624 between Route 643 (Howellsville Road) and Route 661 (Fairground Road) was inconsistent with the safety of through trucks. The restrictions are posted on new signs at those intersections so affected drivers can choose an alternate route.

The single-lane Morgan Ford bridge was built in 1925 and was not designed to handle heavy loads. Signs warning of the new weight restriction will be erected on Wednesday, October 30. A public hearing on the plan to replace the bridge is scheduled for February 2014.

The VDOT Staunton District serves Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke, Warren, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Highland, Rockbridge, Alleghany and Bath counties.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at <u>511Virginia.org</u>. For other assistance call the VDOT Customer Service Center, available 24 hours-a-day, seven days a week. Citizens can dial 1-800-FOR-ROAD (1-800-367-7623) from anywhere in the state to report road hazards, ask transportation questions, or get information related to Virginia's roads.

The Staunton District Twitter feed is at <u>@VaDOTStaunton</u>. VDOT can be followed on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Flickr</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>. <u>RSS</u> feeds are also available for statewide information. The VDOT Web page is located at <u>www.VirginiaDOT.org</u>.

(END)